

services in a common cadre - Gupta-Narain Committee set up on 15.4.94. Tenure is upto October, 1995.

The committees/task forces are yet to submit their final reports.

Mother Dairy Milk Prices

216. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of Mother Dairy milk has been further raised w.e.f. 10th May, 1995;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Mother Dairy has raised the prices of its milk more than three times during the last twelve months and present hike is the second within less than three months;

(d) if so, the reasons for hiking the price more frequently as compared to the previous years;

(e) whether in view of the fact that the frequent hikes in milk prices hard hits the economically weaker sections of the society with fixed income, the Government propose to take effective steps to stabilise the prices of the milk;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) to (g) The prices of Mother Dairy Milk were increased with effect from 16th May, 1995 as follows:-

Full Cream milk : Rs. 14.00 per litre.

Toned milk : Rs. 9.00 per litre.

Toned milk in polypack : Rs. 10.00 per litre.

The increases became necessary on account of a rise in the procurement prices paid to the milk producers. This was the second price hike effected the Mother Dairy in the last 12 months. In order to increase the availability of milk in the country, shortage of which may have adverse effect on the stability of liquid milk prices, the Government opened up the import of the milk powder and milk fat which are used for recombination into liquid milk.

Cogentrix Power Project

217. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

SHRI BALARAJ PASSI:

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether environmentalists have expressed strong reservation regarding ecological impact of Cogentrix Power Project near Mangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) :

(a) and (b) Apprehensions have been raised about the likely adverse impact on the environment, including air and water quality, agriculture and rain forests.

(c) The environmental issues with respect to the proposed project have not been fully examined. The project has so far not been given environmental clearance from this Ministry.

[Translation]

Gauge Conversion

218. Dr. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the gauge conversion work of Kanpur-Agra metre gauge Railway line is likely to be completed;

(b) whether Government propose to double this railway route with a view to ply fast trains thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) In the 9th plan period.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The capacity of the section will get more or less doubled with the gauge conversion since capacity of BG is double than that of MG trains, both passenger and freight. Further doubling will be considered when traffic grows to a level justifying the same.

Electrical Engines

219. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether electrical engines with 5000 horse power capacity are being developed at the Chittaranjan Locomotive Factory;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether with the development of such engines the number of bodies and the speed of passenger trains are likely to be increased; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b) So far 63 freight locomotives and 4 passenger locomotives of 5000 HP capacity have been manufactured by Chittraanjan Locomotive Works.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 5000 HP (WAP4) passenger locomotive is capable of hauling 19 coach train at a maximum speed of 140 km/h. It can also haul 26 coach train at a maximum speed of 130 km/h as against 19 coach train at a maximum speed of 130 km/h hauled by existing 3900 HP (WAP1) locomotives.

5000 HP (WAG7) freight locomotive is capable of hauling 4700 tonne freight train in 1:200 gradient at a balancing speed of 30 km/h as against the capacity of a 3900 HP (WAG5) loco to haul 3300 tonne train in a 1:200 gradient at balancing speed of 30 km/h.

[English]

Doubling of Railway Line

220. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:
SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a final decision has been taken to handover Shoranur-Mangalore work of Doubling the Railway Line to Konkan Railway Corporation for construction under the BOLT Scheme:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The work on Kuttipuram-Mangalore line is being taken up under Build-Own-Lease-Transfer (BOLT) Scheme. KRC can also bid for the same.

Sugar on Fair Prices Shops

221. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sugar procured during the current season under levy system for distribution through the public Distribution System;

(b) what steps have been taken to ensure the availability of sugar for the PDS from indigenous production; and

(c) the reasons for which sugar is being imported by the

STC and MMTC despite optimistic domestic production estimates?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) At present, 40% of the production of each sugar factory (effective all India average about 33% on account of additional freesale allowed under various incentive schemes) is procured as levy. The monthly allocation of levy sugar for the public Distribution system at the existing level of allocation is 3.35 lakh tonnes for all States/UTs. In addition to the above, Government releases about one lakh tonnes per annum as festival quota for the entire country.

(b) With the carry over stocks of 21.93 lakh tonnes of indigenous as on 1.10.1994 and with the estimated production of sugar of about 143 lakh tonnes during the current sugar season 1994-95, there will sufficient quantities of levy sugar available for distribution system in the country.

(c) During the early part of the season 1994-95, when the firm trends of sugar production were not available, the Government, with a view to ensure adequate availability of sugar for the Public Distribution System, in the event of sugar production during the current season 1994-95 not coming upto the expected level, had directed STC and MMTC to enter into forward contracts for import of sugar. However, no sugar has actually been imported as yet.

[Translation]

Railway Engines

222. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be please state:

(a) whether Union Government have received export orders for Railway Engines from several countries;

(b) if so, the names of the countries from which the export orders for engines have been received and the number of Railway Engines likely to be exported to each of them; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange likely to be earned by the Government by the export of Railway Engines?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b) Orders have been received from Sri Lanka, (2BG Locos), Bangladesh (10 MG Locos) and Nepal (2 NG Locos)

(c) The approximate Rupee equivalent of the Foreign Exchange likely to be earned is: